

Memorandum

Date: January 16, 2004

To: Tom Turner U.S. EPA Region V

From: Thomas C. Williams

Subject: Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Site

Re: 2010300074—Winnebago County
Southeast Rockford Groundwater Contamination Site
Superfund/Technical Reports/Legal

This memorandum is a summary of field observations made by the NPL Unit regarding the placement of soil/fill materials in Source Area 7 from June of 2003 through January 16, 2004.

In June of 2003, Illinois EPA received a telephone complaint from a residence living in the area that earth was moving/delivering material/dirt. The individual reported that earth was being moved into areas that had previously had trees cleared. The individual actually observed dirt being delivered and moved with a bulldozer on Saturday June 14, 2003.

Thomas Williams (NPL) from the Illinois EPA arrived at Ekberg Park Source Area 7 on June 16, 2003 at 12:45 pm in response to a complaint concerning earth-moving activities on property located north of the Park. Observed that concrete, asphalt and some of the other material identified as waste materials has been removed. Some smaller pieces of concrete and asphalt were still visible in the fill materials. Piles of soil have been flattened out to some degree; however, places were visible where 4 to 5 feet thickness of soil is present above the natural landscape. Yard/landscape waste materials were still noted on the property east of what would be considered the Superfund area, and some other unsuitable construction debris. A piece of equipment with the identification Troy Lee Excavating from Roscoe, Illinois was present on the site.

Thomas Williams (NPL) from the Illinois EPA arrived at Ekberg Park Source Area 7 at 2:00pm on October 21, 2003 for a general site condition visit. Upon arrival it was noted that fresh fill has been placed in piles in and around areas where the Illinois EPA is planning to perform some of its pre-design sampling activities. Fresh tire tracks were

noted and that clumps of live grass were present in some of the piles. There were approximately 20 new piles of material/dirt. This material without being sampled for potential constituents of concern appears to meet the definition of clean construction debris. I placed a phone call to Kathy Geyer of the Rockford Regional Office on October 22, 2003 to inform her of my observations.

Follow up site visit to Ekberg Park on 10-23-02 did not reveal that additional fill materials have been placed at this time. Six photographs were taken of the fill material placed in the areas of concern.

Thomas Williams (NPL) from the Illinois EPA arrived at Ekberg Park on 12-30-03 at approximately 11:15 am to observe current site conditions in and around Source Area 7. Illinois EPA is planning pre-design activities for the spring or early summer of 2004. Noted that material previously placed in piles from Site Visit on 10-21-03 has been spread out horizontally in areas west of Groundwater monitoring well 112. Further observation revealed that a piece of excavating equipment owned by a Mr. Troy Lee of Loves Park, Ill. was present on the property. A wooden sign made of plywood was leaned up against a bumper post of groundwater monitoring well 112 with the word DUMP and an arrow pointing to the west. Dirt is being placed west of groundwater monitoring well 112 is now within approximately 300 feet of a lower topographical elevation in which Illinois EPA from its Remedial Investigation has identified as a higher risk area for soil contamination. Fresh tire tracks in the mud were noted in various areas around in and around Source Area seven surrounding Ekberg Park.

Note: Access agreement signed by [non responsive-PIL] was still in place until 12-31-03. A new access agreement for work to be performed in 2004 was mailed approximately December 23, 2003. However, we have received no notification from [non responsive-PIL] on the access agreement for 2004 and his attorney was cc.

Thomas Williams (NPL) from the Illinois EPA arrived at Ekberg Park on January 8, 2004 as a follow up visit to the Site Visit on December 30, 2003 at approximately 1:00pm. All observations and photographs taken were taken from Ekberg Park. No new material or continued spreading of fill materials was noted. However, during the time at the Park 2 Jeeps were observed entering Source Area 7 from the west on property owned by [non responsive-personal] located north of Ekberg Park. The jeeps were traveling on a dirt path located only a few feet from the north boundary of Ekberg Park and were observed until they reached a group of trees to the east of the Park and disappeared. Further investigation found potential entry and exit areas that the jeeps could have taken. One possible exit point was found around a barricade on Mc Allister Street that is located on the end of the street itself. Tire tracks were present in the snow from the property owned by [non responsive-PIL] onto the street. From the end of Mc Allister the gate placed on [non responsive-PIL] property is clearly visible and appears to be insufficient to prohibit traffic in and out of the site. The site may be adequately accessed from point present around the north end of the gate wide enough to allow trucks or other vehicles to enter and leave without using the gate. It also appears that tire tracks in the snow were present just the north of the gate.

Follow up site visit on January 13, 2004 to follow up on previous site visits from 12-30-03 and 1-08-04 showed signs of traffic. Snow that was previously present on the site has melted due to warmer weather conditions. An abandoned tire (single tire) was present on the property north of Ekberg Park. The origin of the tire is unknown, however, should the tire be part of fill materials placed on the site it defiantly be designated as material not meeting the condition of clean construction debris. Other pieces of unsuitable materials are still being noted in the materials that have been spread out, however, these were in minor amounts. A return to McAllister drive was also performed to visually observe the current conditions on non responsive-P11 property from this point. The area directly north of the gate had bare soil exposed no groundcover vegetation was present and appeared to be worn as well as compacted as to the surrounding areas. The area adjacent to the worn compacted area north of the gate did contain vegetation.